

INTERVIEW SUMMARY ATTACHMENT

Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurz (US 20020045939) in view of Prescott (US 5554188). Kurz does not disclose forming the prosthesis of silicone. However, Prescott teaches an ossicular prosthesis formed of silicone (Column 3, Lines 17-22). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to form the Kurz prosthesis of silicone, as taught by Prescott, for the purpose of providing a material known to provide biocompatibility and elasticity for medical implants.

Claims 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurz (US 20020045939) in view of Hurst (US 3710399). Kurz does not disclose an additional mass clipped to the prosthesis. However, Hurst teaches an ossicular prosthesis comprising magnet 3 having a mass and clipped to shafts 1 and 2 of the prosthesis (Figure 2). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include an additional mass clipped to the Kurz prosthesis, as taught by Hurst, for the purpose of permitting frequency response according to a predetermined protocol.

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